
GLOSSARY OF TERMS

Action--An activity that is intended to address a problem or resolve a conflict in the Bay-Delta system. An action could be a structure, operating criteria, a program, a regulation, a policy, or a restoration activity.

Action Category--A set of similar actions. For example, all new or expanded offstream storage might be placed into a single action category.

Alternative--A collection of actions or action categories assembled to provide a comprehensive solution to problems in the Bay-Delta system. Alternatives will be considered by the Program in the CEQA/NEPA process.

Cause--An activity or occurrence that contributes to a problem in the Bay-Delta. There may be several causes of a problem. For example, urban stormwater runoff is one cause of reduced water quality in the Bay-Delta system.

Conflict--A situation when two beneficial uses or resources of the Bay-Delta are in opposition. For example, fish survival rates are in conflict with water diversions from the Bay-Delta.

Performance Measure--A measure of the performance or effectiveness of an alternative. Performance measures are designed to measure the degree to which an alternative accomplishes a Program objective.

Problem--A situation within the Bay-Delta that reduces one of four public values of the Bay-Delta system: water quality, ecosystem quality, water supply reliability, and system vulnerability. The four values are defined in the Framework Agreement between the State and Federal governments signed in June 1994.

Solution Principles--Six principles that guide the development and evaluation of alternatives:

Reduce conflicts in the system--A solution will reduce major conflicts among beneficial users of water.

Equitable--An equitable solution will focus on resolving problems in all problem areas. Improvements for some problems will not be made without corresponding improvements for other problems.

Affordable--An affordable solution will be one that can be implemented and maintained within the foreseeable resources of the Program and stakeholders.

Durable--A durable solution will have political and economic staying power and will sustain the resources it was designed to protect and enhance.

Implementable--An implementable solution will have broad public acceptance, legal feasibility and will be timely and relatively simple compared with other alternatives.

No significant redirected impacts--A solution will not solve problems in the Bay-Delta system by redirecting significant negative impacts, when viewed in its entirety, in the Bay-Delta or other regions of California.

Solution Strategy--A description of approaches and desired results that guides development of a preliminary alternative. Each strategy is intended as a starting point for assembling actions and action categories into a preliminary alternative for consideration and evaluation.